

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA CLASS SPECIFICATION

Class Title: Broadcast Operating Technician

Class Code: 40332

A. Purpose:

Operates and monitors television and radio transmitting equipment by reading meters, observing transmitter components and observing equipment for possible problems. Assists in minor maintenance of broadcast equipment at transmitter sites and towers and switching of video and audio sources.

B. Distinguishing Feature:

The Broadcast Operating Technician is responsible for the operation of television and radio transmitting equipment.

The Senior Broadcast Operating Technician directs the work of Broadcast Operating Technicians and is responsible for technical operations of SDPTV.

C. Functions:

(These are examples only; any one position may not include all of the listed examples nor do the listed examples include all functions which may be found in positions of this class.)

1. Monitors television-transmitting equipment by observing transmitter functions such as proper operating parameters and quality of color and picture to ensure Federal Communication Commission rules and regulations are met and equipment is performing properly.
2. Monitors radio transmitting equipment by reading meters and checking quality of sound to ensure Federal Communication Commission rules and regulations are met and equipment is performing properly
3. Switches station breaks and program sources by connecting station to program coming down from national and regional sources to ensure that the program and breaks are broadcast at the designated time.
4. Maintains program and transmitter logs for television and meter readings to ensure documentation is maintained as to exactly how the air time was used.
5. Performs other work as required.

D. Reporting Relationships:

Reports to a Senior Broadcast Operating Technician. Does not supervise, but may train new employees.

E. Challenges and Problems:

Challenged to broadcast a high quality signal with a minimum amount of equipment downtime.

Typical problems resolved include tracing and correcting equipment malfunctions while broadcasting the program on the air. These may include microwave, remote control or transmitter problems.

F. Decision-making Authority:

Decisions made include determining when to run standby programming, how to solve machine problems, changing computer automation times, changing breaks and program times as they come down from national satellites, and distinguishing between correct and incorrect meter readings.

Decisions referred to a superior are equipment repair, technical problems related to machine malfunctioning and/or related technical difficulties, off-air transmitter problems or cable related problems, or if a program cannot air and a substitute must be cleared.

G. Contact with Others:

Daily contact with personnel at other transmitter sites to check status of the site. Frequent contact with other personnel within the organization to clarify work matters, consult on problems, inform appropriate personnel that an engineering problem exists, and to inform and obtain specific program changes.

H. Working Conditions:

Works with high voltage transmission equipment.

I. Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

Knowledge of:

- broadcast operations,
- Federal Communication Commission rules and regulations,
- electronics terminology.

Ability to:

- follow broadcast station program schedules,
- take meter readings,
- work independently.